## Suicide

Suicide is the third leading cause of death for young people aged 15 to 24. The Youth Risk Behavior Survey includes questions on feeling sad and hopeless, considering suicide, planning suicide attempts, attempting suicide, and medical treatment for injuries due to a suicide attempt.

## Highlights

L Figure 1 shows trends in suicidal ideation (thoughts and plans) and attempts among Lancaster county teens from 1991 to 2001. Although it declined since 1991, rates for 2001 were slightly higher than 1999.

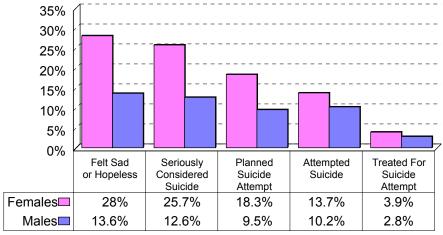
High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months 35% 30% 25% 20% 15% 10% 5% 0% Seriously Planned Attempted Treated For Suicide Considered Suicide Suicide Suicide Attempt Attempt 1991 21.2% 11.1% 2.6% 29.3% 1993 26.7% 20.8% 8.6% 2.6% 1995 22.5% 17.4% 8.1% 3.8% 14.9% 1997 7.2% 25.4% 2.5% 1999 18.3% 14.8% 8.1% 1.6% 14.2% 2001 19.6% 12% 3.4%

Figure 1: Suicide Ideation and Attempts\*

\*Grade Adjusted

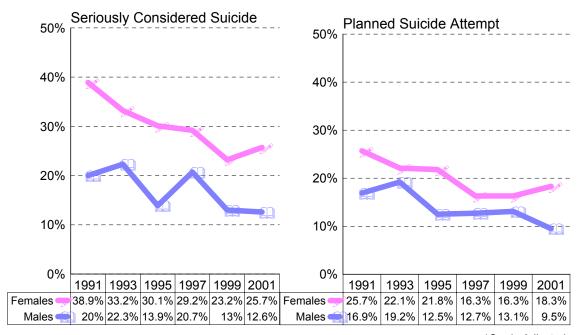
Female teens reported higher levels of depression, suicide thoughts, and suicide plans, than did male students in 2001. This was also evident in all six biannual survey years (Figure 2 & 3).

Figure 2: Suicide Ideation and Attempts\*
2001 High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months



\*Grade Adjusted

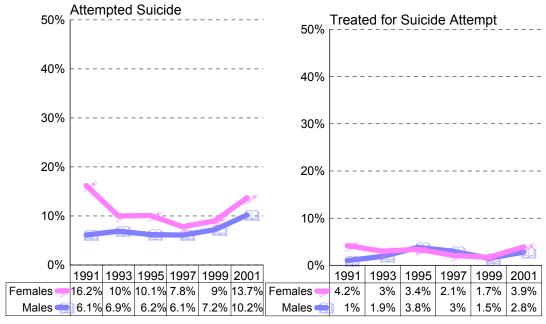
Figure 3: Suicide Ideation\*
High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months



\*Grade Adjusted

There was little difference between males and females in reporting of either suicide attempts or injuries requiring medical treatment.

Figure 4: Suicide Attempts and Injuries\*
High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months



\*Grade Adjusted

Figure 5,6,7,8&9 presents reported suicide thoughts, attempts and injuries by individual grades.

Figure 5: Suicide Consideration by Grade High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months

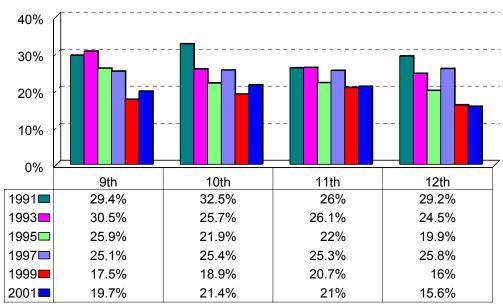


Figure 6: Planned Suicide Attempt by Grade
High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months

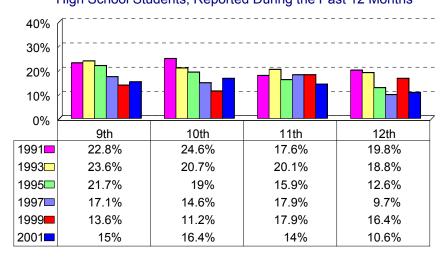


Figure 7: Suicide Attempt by Grade
High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months

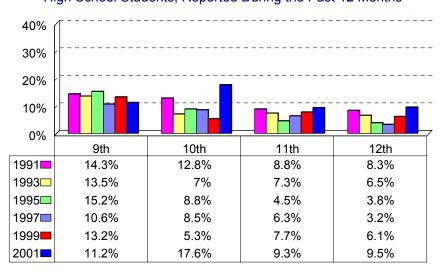


Figure 8: Treated for Suicide Attempt, by Grade
High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months

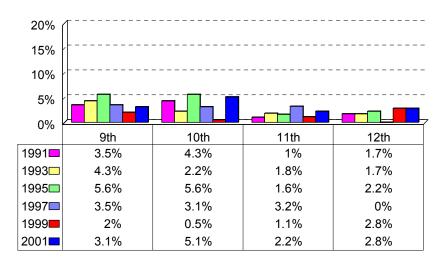
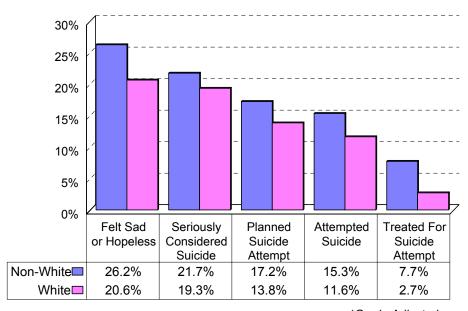


Figure 9: Suicide Ideation and Attempts

2001 High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months 30% 25% 20% 15% 10% 5% 0% Felt Sad Seriously Planned Attempted Treated For Considered Suicide Suicide Suicide or Hopeless Suicide Attempt Attempt 9th 20% 19.7% 15% 11.2% 3.1% 17.6% 10th 23.1% 21.4% 16.4% 5.1% 11th 24.9% 21% 14% 9.3% 2.2% 16.8% 12th 15.6% 10.6% 9.5% 2%

In 2001, non-whites were more likely to feel sad or hopeless, consider suicide, plan suicidal attempt, attempt suicide and get treatment for attempted suicide than whites.

Figure 10: Suicide Ideation and Attempts\* 2001 High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months

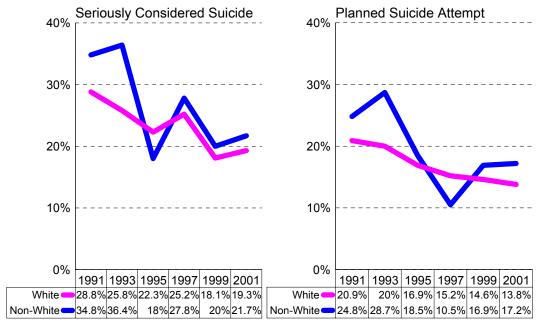


\*Grade Adjusted

Nearly 20% white teens seriously considered suicide and 13.8% actually planned a suicide attempt in the past 12 month preceding the survey. Among non-white teens this was 21.7% and 17.2% respectively.

Figure 11: Suicide Ideation\*

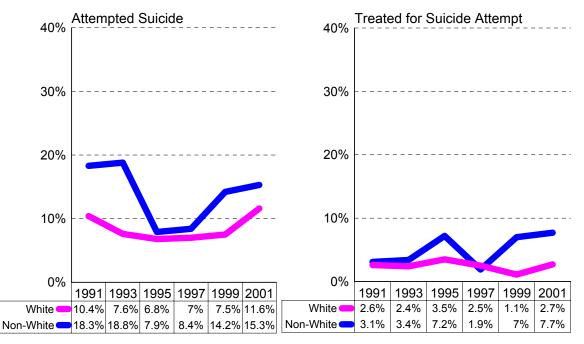
High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months



\*Grade Adjusted

Figure 12 shows racial differences in the rate of reporting suicide attempts and treatment associated with suicide attempt.

Figure 12: Suicide Attempts and Injuries\*
High School Students, Reported During the Past 12 Months



\*Grade Adjusted